

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 CAIRO 14719 01 OF 02 031256Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
-----091368 031301Z /43

O 031204Z SEP 77
FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 9055
INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 CAIRO 14719

EXDIS

EO 11652: GDS
TAGS: RH, PDEV, UK
SUBJ: RHODESIA: APPROACH TO GOE

REF (A) STATE 209162, (B) STATE 209533,

SUMMARY: UK AMB MORRIS AND I DISCUSSED REF SUBJECT WITH MINSTATE MOHAMED RIAD TODAY. MORRIS GAVE HIM COPY OF WHITE PAPER AND OUTLINED ITS CONTENTS. ALSO OUTLINED OWEN'S EXPECTED PUBLIC STATEMENT ON SECURITY ARRANGEMENTS FOR RHODESIA AND PROMISED COPY SOON AS RELEASED. I AFFIRMED USG STRONG SUPPORT FOR PROPOSALS AS SET FORTH WHITE PAPER AND SUBSTANCE OWEN'S EXPECTED STATEMENT ON SECURITY ARRANGEMENTS AND GAVE RIAD COPY DEPT PRESS SPOKESMAN SEP 1 STATEMENT. RIAD EXPRESSED APPRECIATION AND ASKED SERIES OF QUESTIONS, MOST OF WHICH MORRIS ANSWERED. RIAD SAID GOE HAD DISCUSSED GENERAL SUBJECT DURING TANZANIAN VP'S RECENT VISIT AND URGED THAT REALISM AND PRAGMATISM RATHER THAN DOGMATISM BE PREVAILING SPIRIT. GOE HAS ALSO BEEN IN TOUCH WITH PATRIOTIC FRONT LEADERS AND WILL SPEAK TO THEM AGAIN. WHILE RIAD COULD MAKE NO DEFINITIVE JUDGMENT ON PROPOSALS UNTIL WHITE PAPER READ, HIS GENERAL REACTION WAS POSITIVE. END SUMMARY

1. UK AMB MORRIS AND I MET TODAY WITH MINSTATE MOHAMED RIAD
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 CAIRO 14719 01 OF 02 031256Z

TO DISCUSS REF SUBJECT. (FAHMY IS BUSY WITH VISITING ARAB FONMINS.) MORRIS GAVE RIAD COPY OF WHITE PAPER AND OUTLINED ITS GENERAL CONTENTS. HE THEN ASKED FOR THREE THINGS: (A) GENERAL GOE SUPPORT FOR THE PROPOSAL; (B) PARTICULAR SUPPORT FOR THE FIRST STAGE OF GOING TO UNSC TO SEEK AUTHORITY FOR THE APPOINTMENT OF UN REP WHO WOULD BEGIN NEGOTIATIONS WITH BRITISH RESIDENT COMMISSIONER; AND (C) MORE SPECIFICALLY, TO

REQUEST GOE USE ITS INFFFLUENCE WITH PATRIOTIC FRONT TO "LOOK POSITIVELY AT THE PROPOSAL." (INSTRUCTIONS MAKE LAST POINT REACHED MORRIS THIS MORNING.) MORRIS ALSO SPOKE OF OWEN'S EXPECTED PUBLIC STATEMENT ON SECURITY ARRANGEMENTS FOR RHODESIA AND OUTLINED ITS CONTENTS. HE PROMISED COPY SOON AS IT IS DEFINITE THAT THE STATEMENT HAS BEEN MADE PUBLIC.

2. WHEN MORRIS HAD FINISHED, I AFFIRMED THAT WHILE PROPOSAL IS A UK DOCUMENT, USG STRONGLY SUPPORTS IT AS WELL AS SUBSTANCE OF ANTICIPATED STATEMENTS ON SECURITY ARRANGEMENTS FOR RHODESIA. I GAVE RIAD COPY OF DEPT PRESS SPOKESMAN'S SEP 1 COMMENTS ON THE PROPOSAL.

3. AFTER EXPRESSION APPRECIATION FOR THE DOCUMENTS AND EXPLANATIONS, RIAD SAID HE HAD A NUMBER OF QUESTIONS TO ASK--SPECIFICALLY:

(A) NOTING OUR JOINT PRESENTATION, HE WISHED TO KNOW IF WE HAD PRESENTED IT JOINTLY TO THE PATRIOTIC FRONT AND THE CONFRONTATION STATES. IN THIS CONNECTION HE NOTED PATRIOTIC FRONT INSISTS IT IS UP TO UK RATHER THAN US TO SOLVE. MORRIS RESPONDED THAT UK HAD PRESENTED PROPOSALS, BUT THESE WERE SUPPORTED BY US.

(B) RIAD RECALLED OWN AND YOUNG HAD MET WITH THE LEADERS OF THE CONFRONTATION STATES, THE PATIORITC FRONT, VORSTER
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 CAIRO 14719 01 OF 02 031256Z

AND SMITH. WHAT WERE THE RESULTS OF THESE MEETINGS? MORRIS RESPONDED THAT NO ONE HAS REJECTED THE PROPOSALS OUT OF HAND, ALTHOUGH NO ONE HAS ACCEPTED THEM WITHOUT SOME QUESTION. PATRIOTIC FRONT RECEPTION WAS "MOST POSITIVE" IN PRIVATE. MUGABE AND NKOMO DO HAVE RESERVATIONS ON LAW AND ORDER PROVISIONS, BELIEVING THAT THEIR FORCES CAN HANDLE THE JOB. THE SOUTH AFRICANS AND SMITH HAVE RESERVATIONS. SOUTH AFRICA INDICTED IT WOULD NOT RECOMMEND THEM TO SMITH, BUT WOULD ALSO NOT OPPOSE IF SMITH ACCEPTS THEM. SMITH'S INITIAL RESPONSE WAS CRITICAL, BUT HE WAS CAREFUL TO AVOID REJECTING THE PROPOSALS. OUR JOINT INTENTION, MORRIS AFFIRMED, IS TO GO AHEAD.

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 CAIRO 14719 02 OF 02 031334Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
-----092079 031336Z /43

O 031204Z SEP 77
FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 9056
INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 2 OF 2 CAIRO 14719

EXDIS

(C) RIAD ASKED IF THE CONFRONTATION STATES AND THE PATRIOTIC FRONT HAD AGREED TO GO TO THE UNSC ON THE MATTER. MORRIS RESPONDED THAT, IN A GENERAL SENSE, THEY HAD DONE SO. RIAD STRESSED THE IMPORTANCE OF HAVING THE AGREEMENT OF THE PATRIOTIC FRONT AND THE CONFRONTATION STATES BEFORE GOING TO THE UNSC.

(D) RIAD WANTED TO KNOW IF WE EXPECT EXTENSIVE DEBATE AT UNSC HEARING OR WILL WANT TO TRY TO LIMIT DEBATE. MORRIS RESPONDED THAT WE WOULD LIKE TO LIMIT DEBATE TO A GENERAL ACCEPTANCE IN PRINCIPLE TO GO HEAD WITH THE PROPOSALS OUTLINED IN THE WHITE PAPER. WHEN REP AND BRITISH RESIDENT COMMISSIONER HAVE TALKED WITH VARIOUS PARTIES AND PRODUCE PROPOSALS, THEY WOULD GO TO UNSC AGAIN TO PRESENT THESE DETAILED PROPOSALS. IN INITIAL CONSIDERATION, UNSC WOULD NOT BE COMMITTED UNTIL IT HAS HAD A CHANCE TO STUDY DETAILED PROPOSALS. RIAD EXPRESSED PERSONNEL VIEW THAT A MORE LIMITED DEBATE WOULD BE DESIRABLE AT THE OUTSET.

(E) RIAD ASKED IF THE BRITISH RESIDENT COMMISSIONER IS ALREADY IN SALISBURY. MORRIS RESPONDED IN THE NEGATIVE, BUT INDICATED HE HAD ALREADY BEEN NAMED.

(F) RIAD NOTED THE POSSIBILITY THAT, AFTER THE BRITISH RES-
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 CAIRO 14719 02 OF 02 031334Z

IDENT COMMISSIONER IS NAMED AND UN REP APPOINTED, SMITH MIGHT NOT ALLOW THEM INTO THE COUNTRY OR TO CARRY OUT THEIR FUNCTIONS. HE ASKED WHAT PLANNING HAD BEEN DONE BY UK AND US TO MEET SUCH A CONTINGENCY. MORRIS RESPONDED ANY SUCH ACTION BY SMITH WOULD GRAVELY DAMAGE PROSPECTS OF SUCCESS. RIAD THEN INQUIRED IF WE EXPECT SUCH ACTION ON SMITH'S PART. MORRIS SAID HE DID NOT YET HAVE TEXT OF OWEN'S PRESS CONF. WHILE NO ONE COULD BE OPTIMISTIC, UK DOES NOT INTERPRET OWEN'S TALKS IN RHODESIA AND SMITH'S STATEMENT AS OUTRIGHT

REJECTION. I POINTED OUT THAT IT IS NOT OUR INTENTION TO ALLOW ANY PARTY A VETO AND THAT THE PRINCIPLES OF THE PLAN ARE NOT SUBJECT TO A VETO BY ANY OF THE PARTIES. RIAD OBSERVED THAT EVEN IF SMITH REJECTS, IT WOULD STILL BE POSSIBLE TO CONDUCT NEGOTIATIONS FROM THE OUTSIDE--PERHAPS IN LUSAKA, LONDON OR AT THE UN.

(B) RIAD THEN INQUIRED WHEN IT IS EXPECTED THE PROPOSALS WILL BE PRESENTED TO THE UNSC. WILL IT BE BEFORE THE UPCOMING UNGA OR DURING IT? IF IT IS DURING THE UNGA, THERE WILL BE NUMEROUS FONMINS IN NEW YORK, MANY OF WHOM MAY PREFER TO SPEAK AT UNSC AND USE UNSC DEBATE ON WHITE PAPER AS PEG TO ASK TO BE HEARD. IF MATTER IS PRESENTED BEFORE SEPT 20, FONMINS WILL NOT YET HAVE ARRIVED AND DISCUSSION CAN BE MORE LIMITED. BASED ON HIS INSTRUCTIONS, MORRIS GAVE RIAD GENERAL TIME-TABLE WHICH WOULD SUGGEST PRESENTATION TO UNSC ABOUT TEN DAYS AFTER PRESENTATION OF WHITE PAPER TO THE PARTIES, I.E., ABOUT MID-SEPT.

(H) RIAD THEN ASKED WHEN THE SIX MONTH TRANSITION PERIOD WILL BEGIN. MORRIS RESPONDED THIS WILL BEGIN AFTER UNSC HAS ENDORSED THE RESULTS OF THE NEGOTIATIONS CONDUCTED BY THE BRITISH RESIDENT COMMISSIONER AND UN REP AND THE BRITISH RESIDENT COMMISSIONER TAKES OVER IN RHODESIA.
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 CAIRO 14719 02 OF 02 031334Z

4. RIAD THEN THANKED US FOR INFORMING GOE OF PROPOSALS AND HOW UK AND US PROPOSED TO PROCEED. HE COMMENTED THAT NYERERE'S REACTION IS ESPECIALLY IMPORTANT AND ASKED UK AMB FOR REPORT ON THIS ASAP. RIAD ALSO NOTED HE HAD DISCUSSED SUBJECT DURING TANZANIAN VP'S RECENT VISIT AND HAD RECEIVED INDICATION TANZANIANS WILL LOOK AT PROPOSALS IN A BROADMINDED RATHER THAN DOGMATIC SENSE. GOE HAD URGED THAT DOGMATISM SHOULD NOT BE THE PREVAILING SPIRIT, BUT RATHER REALISM AND PRAGMATISM. HE HOPED GOE MAY HAVE MADE AT LEAST SOME CONTRIBUTION BY DOING SO.

5. IN TALKS WITH PATRIOTIC FRONT, RIAD SAID, GOE MUST HANDLE THEM SOMEWHAT DIFFERENTLY. HOWEVER, JUDGING FROM HIS DISCUSSIONS WITH MUGABE AND NKOMO, HE HAD IMPRESSION THEY ALSO "LOOK AT THINGS MORE AIMABLY." UNTIL GOE HAS HAD OPPORTUNITY STUDY WHITE PAPER IN DETAIL, IT IS CLEARLY NOT ABLE TO MAKE A QUALITATIVE JUDGMENT OF THE PROPOSALS. HOWEVER, GOE WILL TRY AGAIN WITH THE CONFRONTATION STATES AND THE PATRIOTIC FRONT AND SPEAK TO THEM IN A MANNER WHICH MIGHT BE CONDUCIVE TO OBTAINING THEIR ACCEPTANCE.

6. WHILE HE COULD NOT GIVE DEFINITIVE REPLY, HIS GENERAL REACTION TO PROSALS WAS CLEARLY POSITIVE.

EILTS

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: INFORMATION EXCHANGE, PAPERS, POLITICAL SETTLEMENT
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 03-Sep-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 22 May 2009
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977CAIRO14719
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770320-0251
Format: TEL
From: CAIRO
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770999/aaaadfsml.tel
Line Count: 225
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 384afb4d-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION SS
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 5
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: 77 STATE 209162, 77 STATE 209533
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 26-Jan-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1392550
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: RHODESIA: APPROACH TO GOE
TAGS: PDEV, RH, UK, EG
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbs://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/384afb4d-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009